

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The following paragraphs will replace all prior versions of the paragraphs in the application.

The following paragraph is to replace the last paragraph on page six starting at line twenty-two.

Figure 3 illustrates a spindle 56 according to the invention. While the figure depicts a single spindle it is understood that a spindle may be provided for each of the left and right skis. The spindle 56 may be formed of steel or aluminum, which desirably provides a reduction in the weight. The spindle 56 provides an upper portion 58 that is attachable to the front suspension of a snowmobile by methods well known to those skilled in the art. A lower portion 60 of the spindle 56 includes a mounting collar 62. The mounting collar 62 includes an inside edge 63A and an outside edge 63B that correspond with the inside and outside edges of a ski. The mounting collar 62 may be formed integrally with the spindle 56. Alternatively, the mounting collar 62 may be formed separately and attached to the spindle 56 in a suitable manner, such as, by welding. The mounting collar 62 includes an aperture 64 that traverses the entire width of the mounting collar 62. The aperture 64 preferably has a circular configuration, however, any configuration may be utilized the aperture 64 is sized to receive a bushing, which will be described in greater detail below.

The following paragraph will replace the last paragraph of page seven beginning at line twelve.

Figure 4 illustrates a bushing 66 with an integral offset flange 68 according to an embodiment of the invention. The bushing includes a first and 70 and a second and 72. The flange 68 divides the bushing 66 into a first section 74 and a second section 76. The distance from the outside edge 78 of the flange 68 to the end 80 of the bushing 66, that is, the second section 76, defines a spacer having a particular length. The bushing 66 is formed with a hollow interior 82 to facilitate coupling to this ski (shown in Figure 5). The flange 68 is offset relative from a central point 77 between the first and 70 and second and 72 of the bushing 66 to provide the adjustment of the ski stance, which will be described in greater detail with respect to figures 5A and 5B. The bushing 66 has a circular configuration to mate with the aperture 64 in the mounting collar 62. However, it is apparent that the bushing 66 may be formed in any

configuration to correlate with a configuration of the aperture in the mounting collar (shown in Figs. 3 and 5). The bushing and flange 66 and 68, respectfully, may be formed of any material of sufficient strength to provide secured coupling of the ski to the spindle, for example, steel.

The following paragraph is to replace the second full paragraph on page nine beginning at line five.

In one embodiment, the width of spacer 726 and flange 68 are proportioned so as to allow one inch of offset. Accordingly, when the bushing 66 is positioned so as to bias the lower portion 60 of the spindle 56 toward the inside edges 20 both the left and right ski, the ski stance is decreased by a total of two inches. Alternatively, when the bushing 66 is turned in the lower portion 60 of the spindle 56 and each of the left and right skis are bias towards the outside edges 22, the ski stance is increased by a total of two inches. As appreciated by those skilled in the art, the spacer 76 length can be varied to achieve any desired range of offset by positioning the flange 68 at various positions on the bushing.